

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, June 16, 1988

Published Since 1877



Temple of prayer: the only way they know

These Indian Hindus in Calcutta are praying the only way they know. India's 785 million people live in an area roughly the size of the United States' mainland east of the Mississippi River. Many have never heard anyone speak the name of Jesus. Their life proceeds on their ability to please a spiritual hierarchy of powers they can't see. A God who loves them and

wants them to know him does not fit into the way they think. In Calcutta Christians are a scant few, but it is one city to which Baptists must relate if they are going to help reach the whole world with the gospel by the year 2000. (FMB) PHOTO By Joanna Pinneo

'Recapture dream of evangelistic growth'

By Frank Wm. White

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (BP) — Recapturing the dream of evangelistic growth in the face of statistical evidence of stagnation and decline is a major challenge facing Southern Baptists, according to the leader of Southern Baptist Sunday School work.

"We have a very serious challenge for evangelistic growth before us, and there are few statistics showing that we are meeting that challenge," Harry Piland, director of the Sunday school division at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, told state convention Sunday School directors meeting here.

Piland reviewed Sunday School enrollment figures for state conventions, showing that 17 states recorded increases for the 1986-87 church year, while 21 conventions recorded losses.

Almost 16,000 churches reported enrollment increases, while more than 17,000 recorded declines in enrollment, Piland said.

Sunday School enrollment across the convention declined by 1,867 in 1986-87, for a total enrollment of 7.94 million.

Southern Baptists are not alone in struggling for growth, Piland said.

The denomination is only one of three that have shown an increase in Bible study enrollment between 1974 and 1985. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, or Mormons

recorded the largest increase, from 2 million to 3.56 million, while Southern Baptists increased from 7.1 million to 7.9 million. The only other denomination with an increase in Bible study enrollment was the Assemblies of God, which grew from 1.07 million to 1.44 million enrolled in Bible study.

Piland reviewed Gallup Poll data showing declines in church and Sunday School attendance since the 1960s and a declining trust of religious institutions.

National trends and controversy in the convention may be affecting efforts, but "we must never allow that to become an excuse for not reaching lost people," Piland said.

Piland noted Southern Baptists recorded 338,000 baptisms last year. At the same time, there were 642,000 people older than age 10 enrolled in the denomination's Sunday Schools who were not church members. Those numbers indicate the Sunday School is not being sufficiently evangelistic, Piland said.

Despite Southern Baptists' historic commitment to evangelism, Piland said, 7,244 Southern Baptist churches recorded no baptisms last year, while 24,000 of the 37,000 churches recorded nine baptisms or fewer.

Frank Wm. White writes for the Sunday School Board.

"Reverend Gregory" gets 5 billionth ABS scripture

NEW YORK, NY, May 12 (ABS) — TV luminary and part-time pastor, Clifton Davis, known as the Reverend Reuben Gregory in the NBC-TV Saturday night series, "Amen," today was given the American Bible Society's symbolic five billionth copy of the Scriptures.

Clifton Davis was presented with an inscribed, leather-bound copy of the Good News Bible, the Today's English Version translation prepared by ABS and published in 1976, over 26 million copies of which have already been distributed around the world.

The Bible symbolized the 5,000,000,000 copies of Scripture distributed worldwide by the Society between its establishment in 1816 and the present.

The occasion was the 172nd annual luncheon meeting in New York City of

the American Bible Society.

Davis, the son of an evangelist, is also an ordained minister who serves as an associate pastor of the 5,600-member congregation of Loma Linda, California, Seventh-day Adventist Church while away from the Hollywood studio on weekends.

In expressing his thanks, Pastor Davis said that he was raised with the Bible, but then "for 18 years it meant only mystery and confusion, just a lot of do's and don'ts.

"But I met Jesus again as an adult and suddenly the Bible meant for me communication, a textbook so that I might unlearn the things I had learned wrongly. Suddenly it became a love letter from God to me and it remains so."

Editorials . . . by Don McGregor

Thirty-five years and counting

Long tenures seem to be the norm in newspaper occupations, but Anne McWilliams of the Baptist Record has put together a record at this newspaper that would be hard to match anywhere.

She has been here 35 years.

In fact, this is the only job that Anne has had since she completed her education. She came to the Baptist Record direct from Southwestern Seminary, where she earned a master of religious education degree. And master's degrees are not foreign to Anne's thinking, for she also has a master of arts degree from Mississippi College. Her bachelor of arts degree is from Judson College in Alabama, her home state.

Anne is the assistant editor for the Baptist Record. The title does not really convey the multi-faceted area of work that is carried out by Anne on a week-by-week basis. To begin with, she writes "Faces and Places" every week, and this has become an international travelog as well as glimpses into the lives of interesting Mississippi Baptists. "Faces and Places" is no doubt the most widely read newspaper column in Mississippi. It is also, no doubt, the most popular feature in the Baptist Record.

Anne has carried us with her as she has circled the globe and as she has made a more recent trip into Asia and Southeast Asia as a participant in a Bible distribution program.

Anne is also a feature story writer as she travels about Mississippi to find and describe people who are serving the Master in interesting and effective ways.

In addition, she handles news stories as the occasion demands. She represented the Baptist Record at the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Woman's Missionary Union last month in Richmond.

Then the area of her work that occupies at least half of her time is in the lay out of the paper. This is a highly sensitive operation, for many times the importance of a news story is determined by where it is placed in the paper. She also has to deal in making long stories shorter many times in order to make them fit into the space available. This is becoming more and more a demanding function as increasing postage rates have forced the Baptist Record to hold the line on the number of pages published.

She is the one who determines whether or not poetry is to be used and how to use it when it is used.

And a blossoming facet of her work is photography. Some months back we carried a full-color reproduction of her photograph of the Taj Majal in India. It is supposed to be the world's most beautiful building. Just recently there was a photo essay about Mississippians at the WMU 100th anniversary.

Last year she took a two-month leave of absence as she completed a book for the WMU, *Sent to Love*, the story of Mississippi missionaries Charles and Indy Whitten. This book was featured at the 100th anniversary celebration.

All-in-all I have spent 32 years working with Baptist state papers. But I have been on the staff of three of them in that time.

Anne has been at the Baptist Record for 35 years.

We congratulate her for that record; but, more than that, we congratulate the Baptist Record and Mississippi Baptists for having her.

Early in life she felt a call to mission service but could not be appointed because of a hearing problem. How much greater has her missionary career been through her ministry at the Baptist Record.

She is due the appreciation of us all.

A Lot Depends on Fathers



Guest opinion . . .

My heart hurts

By Marjean Patterson

My heart is hurting today. Several weeks ago I'd heard the dire projections of a great shortfall in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. It can't be so for us in Mississippi, I said to myself.

Why, after all, each year except one since 1932, we Mississippi Baptists have increased our special foreign mission offering over the previous year. For some unknown reason we gave \$3750.89 less in 1968-69 than we had the previous year. But that's the only time since 1932 that we haven't given more to the Lottie Moon Offering than we did the year before.

Oh, our offering for '87-88 was great — we gave \$4,092,295.34. And I'm truly proud and grateful for gifts from all our churches. It's just that in '86-87 we gave \$35,951.73 more than in the year which closed May 31 of this year. And, I don't know why.

As proud as I am of the offering which was given in our churches, my heart hurts as I think about foreign mission needs which will go unmet because of the lack of financial support provided by the Lottie Moon Offering. I can visualize Mississippi foreign missionaries (as well as those men and women from other states)

who counted on our reaching our goal and have planned and budgeted accordingly. Adjustments will have to be made in their work.

I'm also concerned that the May 31 printout revealed that we're also running behind on this year's gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

What can we do? We can ask the Lord what his will is for us as we anticipate our gifts this year. We can encourage people in our churches to do the same. We can give more to the Annie Armstrong Offering right now.

As the leader of Woman's Missionary Union in our state, I can promise you that our promotional efforts will be intensified with all our special mission offerings. I also promise you that my own personal financial response will be greater this year than ever before.

Join me! I urge you to put the strength of your influence behind these necessary special mission offerings.

Does your heart hurt, too, when we regress in our mission efforts? I hope so — I truly hope so.

Marjean Patterson is executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union.

Guest opinion . . .

Reflections of a father (June, 2000)

By L. V. Shoemake

I was a good father. I just can't understand why my boy became an alcoholic.

I was careful to explain to him that the beer in our refrigerator was to help me relax and unwind after a hard day at work. I pointed out to him that there was iced tea and Gatorade for him after a hard day of ball playing.

I just can't believe my son became an alcoholic.

I was diligent to teach him to be a good citizen. I explained about elections and referendums. I told him the reason I was in favor of legalizing beer and liquor in our county was for the tax benefits for all our citizens.

I also taught him to stand up for his rights. To prove my love for him, I rushed to his defense whenever the law "picked on" him. That reminds me . . . maybe I could get the sheriff to take my son to the state hospital and get him "dried out." After all, it's the responsibility of the taxpayer to furnish this service since they are reaping the benefits of all the tax revenues from beer and liquor sales.

Oh, I wonder why my son became an alcoholic.

I was good to my son. I didn't force him to go to Sunday School. We always carried him to church on Easter and sometimes around Christmas; but I

decided I would let him grow up, then choose for himself what he would do with his spiritual life.

Why, oh why did my son become an alcoholic?

I was faithful to teach my son about being a man. I taught him to be proud of himself. I stressed that he didn't have to back up or take anything off anyone. He was one tough guy, I'll tell you!

I do wonder why my son became an alcoholic. I think I know, but I'm certainly not going to admit it. Would you?

L. V. Shoemake is a deacon at Cold Springs Baptist Church, Collins.

New addresses assigned for WMU, SBC

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP) — The U.S. Postal Service has assigned new addresses to the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, effective immediately.

Mail addressed to the national

WMU should now be sent to P.O. Box 830010, Birmingham, Ala. 35283-0010.

All deliveries should use the new shipping address Highway 280 East, 100 Missionary Ridge, Birmingham, Ala. 35242-5235.

New Hope, a publishing arm of WMU, has also been given a new address.

It is P.O. Box 12065, Birmingham, Ala. 35202-2065.

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'World vision' spurs promises to change

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP) — Be like the crippled man in Mozambique who wore rags but limped to the altar to give a second offering.

Look past the stained glass into a remote area of west Africa, where a village chief whose language contained no word for Jesus urged all who passed by to come listen to the mis-

sionary because, "He has Good News for us."

Those directives were primary messages as about 60 missionaries and world evangelization strategists mingled with Southern Baptists within driving distance of Birmingham, Ala., May 25-27. The occasion was the first of nine regional foreign missions conferences scheduled throughout the United States for 1988-90.

Baptists from Alabama — and some from Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and Tennessee — participated as the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, in cooperation with Alabama Baptists, kicked off a new plan to use fast-moving, touch-and-feel, regionally located conferences as a way to communicate foreign missions. If successful, the format eventually could replace traditional week-long missions conferences at Ridgecrest, N.C., and Glorieta, N.M.

Missions strategists dared 1,000 par-

(Continued on page 4)

Pastors elect Ralph Smith president

Ralph Smith, pastor of Hyde Park Church, Austin, Tex., was elected president of the Southern Baptist Pastor's Conference in San Antonio, Texas, June 13. Rob Zinn, pastor of Immanuel Church, San Bernardino, Calif., was elected vice-president and Rick Ferguson, pastor of First Church, DeSoto, Mo., elected secretary-treasurer.

Church training expands discipleship training

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (BP) — Discipleship — equipping Christians for life as witnesses and servant-ministers — is the fuse to ignite Church Training enrollment figures, according to Southern Baptist church training leaders.

Roy Edgemon, director of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Training Department, told state leaders meeting for mid-year planning in Las Vegas, Nev., he hopes to see the denomination's training program reach an enrollment of 2.5 million by 1995, a figure that equals where the program stood in 1958.

Edgemon traced the history of the rise and subsequent decline of enrollment in church training. Enrollment in what is now known as Church Training escalated well into the 1960s after the Sunday School Board took on the Baptist Young People's Union program in 1918, he said. Enrollment jumped from 230,000 in 1918 to 2.7 million in 1963, when it began to fall steadily to 1.8 million by 1976. The 1987

enrollment is 1.95 million.

Edgemon attributed the enrollment decrease in part to Sunday night competition with television and other types of entertainment.

The key to reaching the 1995 Southern Baptist Bold Mission Thrust goal of 2.5 million is to renew Southern Baptists' interest in discipleship training, Edgemon noted. The Church Training Department is continuing its emphasis on discipleship training through Equipping Centers, Lay Institute for Equipping courses, church study course award programs, and Baptist doctrine studies.

"Doctrines Baptists Believe," written by Edgemon, will be the 1989 Baptist Doctrine Study textbook.

The strategy of the umbrella program called DiscipleALL "communicates the total theme of a balanced discipleship training program in the churches," said Henry Webb, program planning coordinator for the Church Training Department.

Moscow: Reagan pushes for human rights reforms

MOSCOW, U.S.S.R. (EP) — President Reagan pushed a strong human rights agenda during the first few days of his fourth summit with Communist leader Mikhail Gorbachev. The President met with dissidents and refuseniks and challenged the Soviet leader to usher in "a new age of religious freedom."

"It's time, my friend, it's time," he said, quoting the pre-revolutionary Russian poet Alexander Pushkin.

Gorbachev has been credited recently with attempting human rights reform in the Soviet Union. In April he met with the top hierarchy of the Russian Orthodox Church and called for a more tolerant attitude toward religion in the interest of na-

tional unity. Gorbachev promised that a law was being prepared that would give believers broader protection to practice their faith.

Then, in a May 18 interview with senior executives and editors of *The Washington Post* and *Newsweek*, Gorbachev said, "Jesus Christ alone knew answers to all questions and knew how to feed 20,000 Jews with five loaves of bread. We don't possess that skill, we have no ready prescription to solve all our problems quickly."

During a meeting at the home of the U.S. ambassador, Reagan told 49 dissidents and refuseniks and their family members, "I came here hoping to do what I could to give you strength. But I already know it is you

who have strengthened me. You have given me a message to carry back: while we press for human rights through diplomatic channels, you press with your very lives, day in day out, year after year, risking your jobs, your homes, your all."

This is a "moment of hope" for the Soviet people, Reagan said.

However, Reagan tempered his comments by praising the Soviet government for freeing some 300 political prisoners during its time of glasnost, or openness, and for allowing more freedom of travel by Jews, ethnic Germans and Armenians. But he also said that the freedom to worship and to speak openly are also fundamental.

Quoting Alexander Solzhenitsyn, an exiled Soviet writer now living in the U.S., Reagan said, "Men must abandon trivial concerns of this world and give time and thought to eternity."

The leading Soviet papers, *Pravda* and *Izvestia*, were scornful of the remarks made by Reagan and called his audience a self-serving handful of Soviets. "Why is it," *Izvestia* demanded, "that the U.S. president in his first days in Moscow can find the time to meet dissidents and refuseniks, while in seven and a half years in office he has been unable to find a chance to receive American Indians?"

Gorbachev toasted "to cooperation between the Soviet Union and the United States of America, to their bet-

ter mutual knowledge and mutual understanding." At the same time he warned Reagan against "sermonizing."

U.S. critics fear that Reagan has pushed too hard and that his attempt to pressure Gorbachev into making human rights reforms will backfire if the Soviet leader is embarrassed or feels subsequent efforts to make the reforms Reagan seeks will be attributed to the president's suggestions.

Reagan has said that Americans will not let him forget the issue, especially those whose families left Eastern Europe for religious reasons. For that reason, he has said he will "keep the pressure on."

The Second Front Page

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Jerusalem church gets long-awaited permission

By Art Toalston

JERUSALEM (BP) — Narkis Street Baptist Church here has received permission to rebuild after five and one-half years of negotiations with Israeli authorities.

"The Lord answered our prayers," said John Anthony, a Southern Baptist representative who has worked with the international English-language church since 1974. "We finally received, in hand, a stamped and approved building permit."

The congregation, which lost its building in an arson-suspected fire in October 1982, spent \$90,000 for various fees while seeking the permit, Anthony said in a telephone interview.

The amount represents nearly one-sixth of gifts received by the congregation for rebuilding, he said.

The license, good for three years, allows the congregation to build a 350-square-meter auditorium, with seating for up to 450 people, and a 175-square-meter second floor for Baptist House, an adjacent bookstore, and ministry center. Cost of the project will be at least \$800,000, Anthony said. The size of the former chapel, built in 1933, was about 150 square meters.

The congregation has been worship-

ping under a tent-like structure of tin walls and plywood roofing since the fire. Attendance has grown by 100 people, to 350 to 400 each Saturday, the Sabbath in Israel.

The addition to Baptist House will begin this year, Anthony said, followed by construction of the auditorium next year.

Even after the congregation reached a compromise last summer with a district planning commission, Anthony said, "We had about 13 different stages we had to go through" for final approval.

Before the compromise, the congregation had taken its case to Israel's High Court, seeking a reversal of the planning commission's denial of initial rebuilding plans that called for a 1,300-square-meter facility. The court delayed ruling on the appeal but endorsed a proposal by the city and the Israel Land Authority that the congregation exchange its western Jerusalem property for a site elsewhere in the city. The congregation, however, rejected this proposal.

Objections by ultra-Orthodox Jews, some of them in the neighborhood, caused much of the controversy over

the building permit, Anthony said. In 1985, for example, a citywide demonstration against the church was orchestrated by one group of Jewish extremists. About 100 people participated in the protest.

Primary objections against the rebuilding plans involved parking and noise. To counter the former, the church counted more than 100 municipal parking spaces a block from the church not used on the Sabbath. To answer the latter, the congregation agreed the auditorium windows will remain shut.

"Some of the neighbors have been for us the whole time," Anthony noted.

One supportive neighbor, an architect, is on the district planning committee.

"The municipality and Mayor Teddy Kollek have helped us," Anthony added.

By pursuing the building permit, "We feel that we have demonstrated that we're not going to be scared out or pushed out," he said. "We want to use it as a witness to the risen Yeshua, Jesus, as the Messiah in this land."

Art Toalston writes for the Foreign Mission Board.

Home Board reports Annie gifts up

ATLANTA (BP) — As of June 7 Southern Baptists have given 19 percent more to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions than at the same time last year.

The final total on this year's offering could show a 5 to 8 percent in-

crease over last year if current giving patterns continue, Home Mission Board Executive Vice President Bob Banks told the board's executive committee.

During their June meeting, the executive committee elected a new

director for the church planting department, an associate director for the planning and services research department, a new national consultant, eight missionaries, and 12 church planter apprentices.

(Continued on page 4)

Cooperative Program tops inflation rate

NASHVILLE (BP) — The Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists' combined ministry budget, has topped the U.S. inflation rate for the second time this fiscal year.

May receipts for the conventionwide program were \$11,953,812. That amount represents an increase of about \$1.8 million over May of 1987, for a monthly gain of 17.31 percent.

The Cooperative Program's year-to-date total at the end of eight months of the current fiscal year is \$89,997,158.

That is an increase of more than \$3.7 million, or 4.33 percent, over the same period last year.

"The current U.S. inflation rate is 3.9 percent. The only other time the Cooperative Program has surpassed the inflation rate this fiscal year was in January, when it received a record \$15.5 million. The \$11.95 million receipts for May makes that month the fourth-best in six decades of Cooperative Program history.

Centennial shines through controversy

By Susan Todd

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP) — Celebrating a centennial of God's goodness and provision to Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union was divinely timed to shine through controversy in the Southern Baptist Convention, says a former national WMU leader.

In a recent address to WMU employees and in a later interview, Helen Fling, former national WMU president, gave God the credit for WMU's recent "Centennial Celebration" and for 100 successful years of missions education and mission support.

"It has been a difficult year within the 10-year crisis in our convention, we've all been prayerfully aware of it," she said. "We've all been aware of the statistical falldown in baptisms and giving."

But there is cause for celebration amidst the difficulties, Fling said.

"Personally, I believe God oversees

everything and overlooks nothing. I think he has blessed WMU in such a way so as to affirm us in our purpose and maybe clarify our purpose for people who were unsure of us," Fling said.

"I don't think it was any accident that WMU's centennial was this year." Even though it is easier to remember the good parts of WMU history, Fling acknowledged that things have not always been easy or festive for WMU.

For example, she referenced the tension-filled days of racial inequality. "We've been through difficult days before," she said. However, "God has simply affirmed and encouraged us to stay with our purpose and not be sidetracked by anything."

Fling added, "We might already be a divided convention were it not for the fact that we're committed to prayer and to home missions and foreign missions."

Susan Todd writes for WMU, SBC.

500 youths head for camp

A total of 500 young people about 70 of their adult sponsors primarily from the Jackson area will head for a summer youth camp June 19-25 called Friends Forever '88.

The camp, sponsored by the Hinds Madison Association and participating churches, will be for 7-12 graders and will take place at the University of Central Florida at Orlando.

They will sing as a mass choir at the Florida Youth Evangelism Conference on June 17.

Featured will be Christian comedy by Isaac Air Freight, interdenominational youth speaker Dave Busby, singer Wayne Watson, and music leader Byron Cutrer, former Mississippian and now associate minister of music at First Church, Orlando.

Camp director will be Rich Malone, minister of youth at Parkway Church, Jackson.

A reunion service will take place for participants and their parents at First Church, Jackson, at 7 p.m., June 28.

HMB reports Annie gifts up

(Continued from page 3)

Banks reported \$18.64 million has already been received toward the 1988 Annie Armstrong goal of \$37.5 million.

Jim Hill, associate director of the board's church starting department since 1984, was promoted to department director, effective June 16. Hill succeeds Nelson Tilton who earlier had transferred to the board's metropolitan missions department.

Richie Stanley, minister of educa-

tion at West Side Baptist Church in Greenwood, S.C., was elected associate director of the board's planning and services research department. He succeeds Rudee Boan, now on the staff of Gardner-Webb College, Boiling Springs, N.C.

Ann Putnam, a home missionary in Alexandria, Va., was elected national consultant on church weekday ministries and disabled persons.

called to pray



Our pastor baptized 12 believers in District Bagerhat, a new area of work. You often pray for us when you do

not know our special needs. God stores these prayers for the times of danger and challenge. Pray more as we try to reach the lost multitudes in Bangladesh with Christ's message.

—Gloria Thurman
missionary to Bangladesh



Call the PrayerLine 24 hours a day
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(In Virginia, 1-804-355-6581)

'World vision' spurs promises

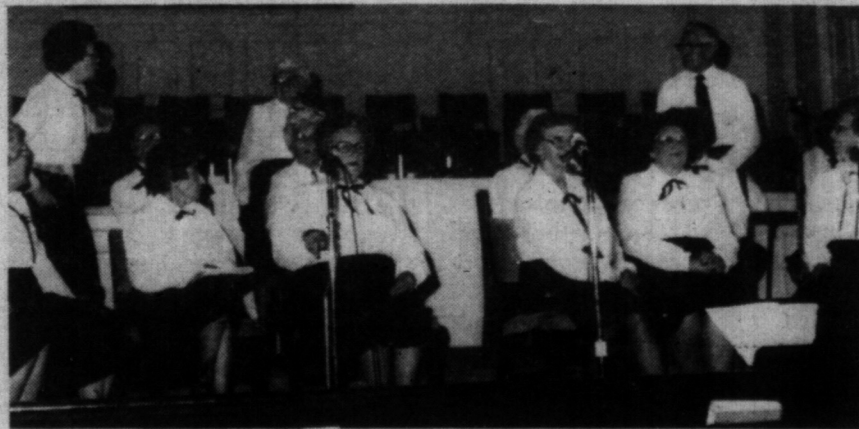
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Participants who attended all or parts of MissionsFest Alabama to turn away from the self-serving belief system into which American culture has twisted the gospel.

"We are blessed only so God may bless others through us," Foreign Mission Board President R. Keith Parks told participants. "The church is not supposed to be a group of people in one corner of society becoming anemic behind stained glass."

Missions leaders said they planned MissionsFests primarily for church leaders and decision makers who would not attend the traditional Foreign Missions Weeks.

Participants seemed especially pleased with opportunities to talk to missionaries and to ask Parks and other missions strategists about mission work in trouble spots; networking with other Great Commission groups; and using non-traditional methods to witness in places where missionaries are barred.



Singers at nursing home

The Prime Time Singers, the senior adult choir of Alta Woods Church, Jackson, presented a concert May 31 at Crawford's Nursing Home in Jackson. The Prime Timers presented "Meet and Eat, There IS Something More" by Mississippi Baptist composers Ann Colbert of Forest and Irene Martin of the Baptist Record staff and Harperville. The Prime Timers had presented the musical for their own church on the previous Sunday evening. Bob Jones is minister of music at Alta Woods and directs the senior adult choir. Bobbie Butler is the accompanist. Frank Thomas is pastor.

Ministers of childhood ed elect Nancy Bullock president

Mississippi Ministers of Childhood Education recently held their spring meeting at Parkway Church, Jackson. The guest speaker for the meeting was Mississippian Mona Turner, minister of childhood education, at First Church, Germantown, Tenn.

A business meeting was held after the luncheon. Nancy Bullock from Parkway Church, Jackson, was elected president for the next year.

Other officers elected were Toby Denson, First Church, Madison, as vice-president, and Barbara Brown, Colonial Heights Church, Jackson, as secretary-treasurer.

Mississippi Ministers of Childhood Education is an organization for all part-time and full-time preschool and/or children's director in the state. For more information, contact Nancy Bullock at 354-8701.

Adams to lead single adults July 4 weekend

John Adams, Iowa Southern Baptist Fellowship, Des Moines, Iowa, will bring the major addresses at the Single Adult Retreat, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, July 2 (supper) to July 4 (noon). The theme "Single Adults Caring for One Another."

Among other personalities will be Lee Pitts, nationally known contemporary music artist and worship leader and recent graduate of Southwestern Seminary; Reid Doster, counselor, Covington, La.; Mike McKinney, Conflict specialist, Des Moines, Iowa; Paul Jones, Christian Action Commission, Jackson; Mike Romeo, counselor, Gulfport; and Ray Hodges, New Hebron.

The retreat is sponsored by the family ministry section of the Church Training Department with J. Clark Hensley, contract single adult consultant.

"I have heard a disturbing question being asked. A state leader complained, 'We asked for a missionary to come and speak to our group, and the Home Mission Board sent a director of missions from one of our new work areas. We asked for a missionary!' To me, the director of missions is the ultimate catalytic missionary." —Gerald Palmer

Help wanted

Two groups which were heading for Indiana for volunteer church construction work in June and July have had to drop out. Replacements are badly needed.

The construction is for a new church building for Huntington Baptist Church. General construction is needed.

To respond, contact the Brotherhood Department, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205, phone 968-3800.

"No race can prosper till it learns that there is as much dignity in tilling a field as in writing a poem."

—BOOKER T. WASHINGTON

Central Hills has openings

Central Hills has openings for summer camp, particularly in the early weeks of the schedule. Resident camp, for boys in grades 4-12, has sessions June 20-24; June 27-July 1; July 11-15; July 18-22; July 25-29; and Aug. 1-5. July 6-8 is a mini-week. Dad-Lad camp sessions are for boys in grades 1-3 and their fathers with sessions June 24-25; July 8-9; and July 22-23. For costs and details, contact Dan West at 289-9730 at Kosciusko, or the Brotherhood Department at 968-3800 in Jackson.

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William Clawson, was honored recently at the third annual banquet of the Board of Ministerial Education. Pictured here following the banquet are, from left, Jim Futral, Hardy Denham, Clawson, and Mrs. Clawson.

Board of Ministerial Education holds third annual banquet

The Board of Ministerial Education of the Mississippi Baptist Convention held its third annual banquet, May 12, giving special recognition to William Clawson of Hattiesburg who recently retired from the faculty of William Carey College. The Board of Ministerial Education presented Clawson with a plaque expressing appreciation for his 22 years of service to the Board of Ministerial Education as its campus representative at Carey.

Earlier this year, the board established the William Clawson Scholarship Fund with the Mississippi Baptist Foundation to honor Clawson's work with ministerial students on the Carey campus and through the Board of Ministerial Education.

The banquet program also featured remarks from Jim Futral, president

of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, and a statement addressing the question "Where To From Here?" by Hardy R. Denham Jr., president of the Board. Denham's comments were directed toward the expanded role of the board in providing assistance to all qualified church-related vocational ministerial students.

Petra to sell Bibles

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (EP) — Christian rockers Petra have signed on as exclusive sponsors of the youth Bible "The Transformer." The joint project with Thomas Nelson Bible Publishers is an effort to show the Bible's relevance to today's problems. The NKJV Bible includes answers to the top 40 questions gathered in a poll of American youths.

Musical spearheads fund raising at Salem, Collins

The Adult Choir of Salem Church, Collins, presented "The Comforter Has Come" in the 11 o'clock service on May 29.

This musical celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. It was written by Bruce Ballinger. The director was Gwen Hitt; the accompanists were Denese Gibson and Angel Gibson; the narrator was Ronald Bishop; and the soloist was David Gibson.

This musical was a part of Commitment Sunday at Salem as the members brought offerings and pledges of offerings for the renovation

of the church sanctuary.

Spearheading the fund raising for the renovation are W. C. Whittington (chairman), Jerry Jones, Roanoke Keys, Gwen Hitt, and Janet Rogers. Ex officio members of the committee are Ronald Bishop, pastor; Mattie Lou Rogers, church secretary; and Paul Rogers, deacon chairman.

The goal for the renovation is \$94,000 and to date \$80,480.86 has been given in offerings and pledges of offerings. The fund raising committee said the church hopes to be able to begin the work in the sanctuary this summer.

Church Training Department gives excellence awards

Awards for Excellence were presented by the Mississippi Church Training Department to several associations at the Associational Officers Planning Meeting held at Alta Woods Baptist Church in Jackson on May 17.

These awards were presented for Associational Church Training work done during the 1986-87 year.

The award for the Largest "M" Night attendance went to Pontotoc Association, Lewis McGee, associational Church Training director.

The award for Largest "M" Night percentage of churches in attendance went to Grenada Association, Dale Gravatt, director.

The award for Largest Church Training enrollment gain went to Adams Association, Steve Purvis, director.

Lawrence Association, Wayne Spencer, director, was presented the award for the largest percentage of

enrollment gain in Church Training. The largest number of doctrine study course awards went to Northwest Association, J. D. Roberts, director.

The award for the largest number of Church Training study course awards went to Panola Association, William E. Still, director.

Hinds-Madison Association received the award for the largest number of associational leadership training awards for the period. Richard Colum was the associational Church Training director.

The special award presented each year to the director judged by the Church Training Department staff as one who typifies an ideal Church Training director was awarded to Truman Scarborough of Yalobusha Association. He also recently served as the director for the Neshoba Association while he was pastor in Philadelphia.

Mass evangelism conference set

A conference on mass evangelism will take place at Alta Woods Church in Jackson, Aug. 22-23, to prepare church leaders for revival.

The meeting, sponsored by the Home Mission Board and the Evangelism Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, will include a number of seminars concerning all aspects of revival.

Topics include theology of evangelism, evangelistic preaching, the evangelistic invitation, choosing the evangelistic team, revival counseling, media evangelism, prospect discovery, pastor/evangelist expectation, and music and evangelism.

Leaders for the conference will be Richard Harris, Thad Hamilton, and Tom McEachern of the Home Mission Board; Jay Brown, Kentucky evangelism director; Cliff Duvall of the Georgia Baptist Convention; Harper Shannon, associate executive director of the Alabama Baptist Convention; Ray Jones of First Church, Kenner, La.; and James Merritt, pastor of First Church, Snellville, Ga.

A \$10 registration fee includes materials and two meals. To register, write Guy Henderson, Evangelism Department, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205. Make checks payable to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Wayne WMU celebrates

Woman's Missionary Union members in Wayne County Association joined with WMU members across the United States in celebrating WMU's 100th birthday. They held celebration on May 14, at Calvary Church, Waynesboro.

A skit featuring "Miss Annie" and a "lady of the 80's" reminded participants of the many changes in life-style in the past 100 years. The reason for organizing WMU remains "To promote missions in the churches."

Each age-level had a special Centennial session. Baptist Women and Baptist Young Women had a panel, "The Way It Was." Panel members were Mrs. Charles H. Gilbert from Mt. Zion; Mrs. Lurline Pryor from Pleasant Grove; and Dottie Parker from Calvary. Mrs. Ivan Q. Eubanks was moderator.

Mrs. James L. Felts, Mrs. Herbert Hulsey, and Mrs. Kay Davis led the Mission Friends, Girls-in-Action, and

Acteens. GAs were represented with 22 present.

A fellowship lunch featured a "Happy Birthday WMU" cake. Mrs. Charles R. Chapman, FBC, Clara, designed the cake.

After lunch, the group attached a message about the day's significance to helium-filled balloons which they released.

Wayne Association was represented in Richmond, at the National Centennial Celebration by its WMU director, Mrs. Jerry Wayne Taylor. She carried an associational banner in the march of associational representatives in the Saturday afternoon session, which was aired over BTN. The associational banner was made by Mrs. David Hinton.

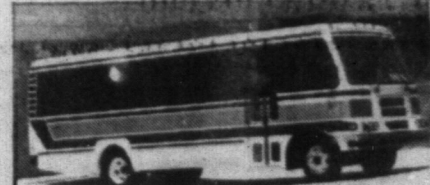
Centennial Committee members were Mrs. Ivan Q. Eubanks, Mrs. Ronnie Moody, and Mrs. Jerry Wayne Taylor, Chairman. Lynn O. Mackey Sr. is the director of missions for Wayne Association.



Participants release balloons for Wayne County's WMU celebration.



WMU directors present for Wayne Association's WMU centennial celebration are, from left to right, Sylvia Eubanks, Calvary; Sharon Pitts, West Shady Grove; Lurline Pryor, Pleasant Grove; Eletha Walley, First, Waynesboro; Johnnie Ezell, Riverside; and Sue Mills, Big Creek.



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CHILDREN'S PAGE

The Bible

The Bible contains 3,566,480 letters,
733,746 words
31,102 verses
1,189 chapters
and 66 books

The longest chapter is Psalm 119, and shortest — the middle chapter, Psalm 117. The 37th chapter of Isaiah and the 19th chapter of II Kings are alike. Longest verse is Esther 8:9, the shortest is John 11:35. The name of God is not mentioned in the book of Esther. The Bible contains two Testaments; the Old and the New.

Pen Pal Club

Anyone, ages 6 through 12, who wishes to meet a Pen Pal through the Baptist record may do that by sending name, address, age and name of church. Names will be listed monthly.

Dear Baptist Record:

I want to be a Pen Pal. My name is Robin Todd. My address is Rt. 1, Box 266-A, Natchez, MS 39120. My age is 10. And my church name is Springfield Baptist Church. My hobby is riding horses and fishing. Sincerely,
Robin

I want to meet some pen pals through your pen pal club. My name: George McClure III Address: Box 508, Boyle, Miss. 38730 Age: 8 Church: First Baptist Church of Boyle I like to play soccer, T. ball, camp out, and fish. Please write me.

George McClure III

He died for us

Poogha! Poogha!
Goes the hammer,
Driving against the nail.

The sky looks evil.
Satan has turned loose
His abode, hell.

Poogha! Poomp!
The work is done.
The blood flows free.

The man looks up,
Unto heaven,
His father to see.

"Forgive them, Father,
For they know not
what they have done."

The answer came,
"So be it, for
Thou art my Son."

He lived for me.
He lived for thee.
He died for us,
That we may be free.

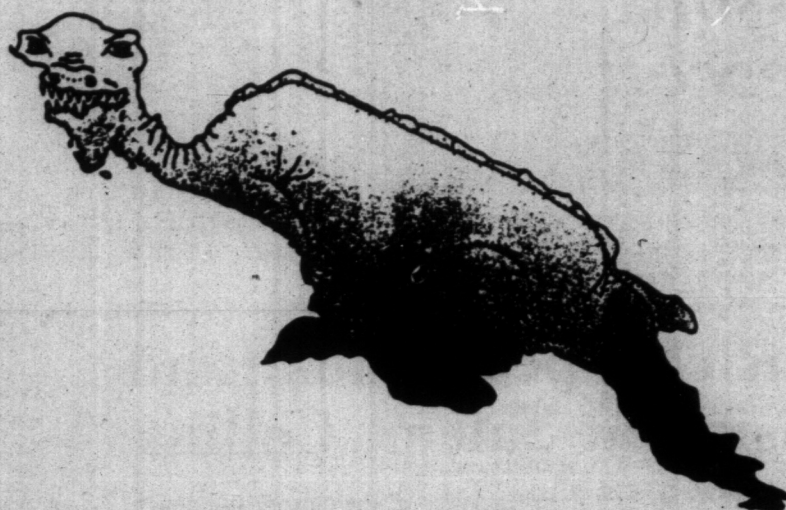
—Jeremy Cox, age 13
Memphis



SMILES FROM THE EAST — These Koreans are participating in an exercise class at the Un Kwang Girls Middle High School in Seoul, Korea. With a population of 9.5 million people, Seoul is one of the world's largest cities. About 135 Southern Baptist missionaries are assigned to work in South Korea; they have found it extremely open to the gospel in recent years. When Seoul hosts the Summer Olympic Games in 1988, Baptist churches will be opened as visitor centers. (FMB) PHOTO By Joanna Pinneo

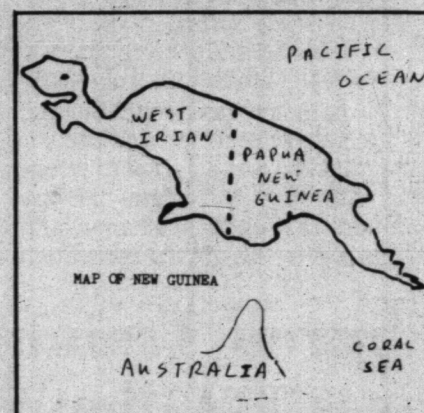
GEOGRAFUN:
Nations and Imaginations

By Ralph C. Peterson



© 1988 R. Peterson

New Guinea is a large island in the South Pacific, north of Australia. Can you imagine that the map of New Guinea looks like a dinosaur? Color the picture.



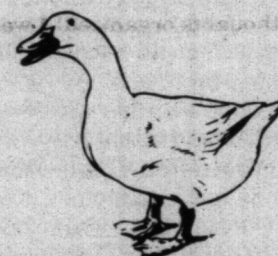
Month of weddings

Match the husband's name with that of the wife's. All are Bible characters.

J	acob	1. Abigail
U	riah	2. Judith
N	abal	3. Bathsheba
E	sau	4. Rachel

Answers:

E-2 (Genesis 26:34)
N-1 (1 Samuel 25:3)
U-3 (2 Samuel 11:3)
J-4 (Genesis 29:28)



Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor must be limited to 300 words and the editor reserves the right to trim those that are longer. Editorial prerogatives must be reserved under all circumstances, and the opinions of the letter writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the Baptist Record. Only signed letters will be used, but the writer may request that his name be withheld.

Appreciation for Bryant

Editor:

Thank you for printing our report on the fantastic year we had in World Missions Conferences throughout the Southern Baptist Convention last year. (The Baptist Record March 10, 1988)

Since Mississippi led our convention with the participation of 18 associations, 352 churches, and 112,404 total attendance, I would like to commend your state WMC director, Hollis Bryant. Hollis has done an outstanding job of promoting these conferences in Mississippi. Nineteen associations are having them this year, therefore, there is a possibility that Mississippi will be #1 again in 1988.

I also want to commend the fine group of DOM's in your state. They are the ones who devote a lot of time and effort in directing WMC's in their association.

I trust that your convention is reap-

ing the fruits of WMC's which include greater missions awareness, increase in mission giving, mission volunteers and local missions involvement.

Carlos Cobos
Brotherhood Commission

Thanks from Wyoming

Editor:

Thirty-five Mississippians under the leadership of Keith Wilkinson and Randy Tompkins of the Mississippi Baptist Sunday School Department have just concluded a Sunday School Enrollment Training Clinic in Wyoming, which involved two associations and 11 churches. The Mississippians came at their own expense to provide the services for our churches, which could not afford to pay for this experience. It was a joint project between Wyoming, the Baptist Sunday School Board, and the Mississippi Baptist Convention. The 11 churches had 1,014 enrolled in Sunday School, discovered 1,000 prospects, began 17

new classes or departments in the churches, and enlisted and trained 49 new workers during the week.

This experience has widened the vision of the people of Wyoming, given them a boost in their morale, and has assured the possibility of growth in the churches that were involved.

This is simply to say a word of gratitude from those of us who serve in the newer convention areas to the participants and the churches and individuals who supported them through financial resources with prayer in making their trip to Wyoming a possibility. We believe that many souls will be born into the Kingdom as a result of the investment of this week in the west.

This kind of support truly warms the heart of a native Mississippian who is giving the final years of ministry in this newer convention area.

William E. Hardy, Jr.
Director of Religious Education
Wyoming Convention

Readers will remember that Bill Hardy left his post as minister of education at First Church, Columbus, to take his present position. — Editor

Friends in need

Editor:

I want to thank the Southern Baptists in Mississippi and specifically to thank the membership of Woodlawn Baptist Church in Vicksburg for their wonderful display of Christian love and service.

On our recent trip with 40 senior saints to visit Vicksburg we were left without transportation when the tour service we were using broke down and actually left us in Vicksburg to fend for ourselves. Pastor Gerald Martin arranged for us to have the use of one of their buses and provided a tremendous Christian man, William Wienke, who drove us around Vicksburg to our various activities and stayed with us until we could secure another means of transportation home. They went out of their way to minister to us in the name of Jesus.

As we visited in Vicksburg it soon became evident that Woodlawn Baptist was held in high regard among the people of Vicksburg.

You have a wonderful church in your midst ministering love in the

name of Jesus. You are indeed blessed and we are indeed grateful.

May the Lord bless you,
Michael Teer
Minister of Music
Northside Baptist Church
Arlington, Texas

Pastor's pictures needed

Editor:

New Prospect Baptist Church, Lincoln Association, is seeking pictures of former pastors. Pictures are needed for the following: J. E. Lowe, S. A. Williams, George Darling, R. D. Stringer, E. M. Ferrell, and W. O. Carter. If you can furnish pictures or information, please write Janice Goza, Rt. 2, Box 434, Brookhaven, MS 39601 or phone collect 833-7489.

Janice S. Goza

"Tact is the art of convincing people that they know more than you do."
— RAYMOND MORTIMER

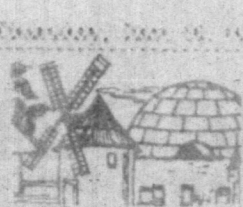
"When a man says money can do anything, that settles it; he hasn't any."

— ED HOWE



Faces and places

by Anne Washburn McWilliams



Nelson Prescott

"There is something in me" (he tapped his chest) "that I have not got out of here yet. The Lord has left me here for some purpose. I want to do his will," said Nelson Prescott, who was 100 on April 12. Next Sunday is Father's Day, and he's my nominee for Father-of-the-Year. He lives with his daughter, Pauline (Mrs. John Homer Willoughby) at Goss. He has two sons and "a lot of" grandchildren. His 115-year-old church, Holly Springs in Marion County, celebrated Nelson Prescott Day on April 17, and his family gave him a birthday party April 10.

"I'm gonna live to be 130 like that old slave I heard about. I've taken all the vitamins and minerals I can, and there's not a sore bone in my body. I walk up and down the road three or four times a day."

When I went to visit him he was waiting on the porch for W.D. and me and his pastor, James L. Yates. Inside the house, he took the tan corduroy hat off his white hair and laid the hat on the arm of the couch. When he'd think of a funny story, his alert eyes would fill with merriment and he'd burst out laughing. Halfway through the story, he'd think of another, and say with frustration, "Oh, if only I'd written my book when I could still see and hear and get my thoughts organized! I was a terrific typist. I could have done it ten years ago."

Nothing wrong with his memory, for sure. His problem is that 100 years make so many memories. His hearing aid, he says, is not satisfactory, and he can't see like he wants to, but when he wakes up in the middle of the night he reads the Bible. The other night, he read five pages.

"Preacher," he said, waving his cane toward Yates. "Why don't you preach on Acts? About old Peter and John. Remember the story of the man who fell dead? The others were selling their land and giving their money to help others. This man didn't sell his part. I could preach the shirt off somebody about that!"

Born April 12, 1888, in a log cabin at Morgantown, Nelson Prescott was baptized in the spring below Holly Springs Church in 1906, at age 18, and he's been a member there ever since — also, at times, church clerk, treasurer, and deacon.

In early years, when he owned a business college in Hattiesburg, Elma Lee came to study there. Afterward he got her a job in Pelahatchie, and kept his Oldsmobile in the road going to see her. They got married in Brandon June 24, 1911. Then she taught in his school, alongside him. They lived together 55 years before her death. He has not married again, but has a "girl friend" who has meant a lot to him. He drove her to church at Holly Springs until he was 98. After he had a wreck then, he quit driving.

In 1900, when Nelson was 12, John J. Justice, then pastor of Holly Springs, discovered the boy's talent. He recalls, "Justice found a genius in the woods! He told me, 'Because you



Nelson Prescott, age 100, is an expert in calligraphy. Looking out from underneath his flipped-up sunglasses, he shows a framed copy of his favorite Scripture, the 23rd Psalm, which his own fancy penmanship produced.

are 15 miles from the railroad is no sign you can't be something!" Justice taught 10-day penmanship schools for \$1 per pupil (and according to Prescott, he died a millionaire). Prescott learned the art of calligraphy from him, and it became his career. He liked it so much he would practice and practice and sometimes forget his chores until his mother would call from the field, "Nelson, when are you going to bring us a drink of water?"

Some time before 1917, after Justice moved to Alabama, Prescott asked him for a loan. He answered that he could not give the loan, but added, "You'll make it." If he meant that as a challenge, it was taken up. The young man prayed, soon got \$15 in the mail from a cousin who owed it to him, and drove to Chicago to find a job. How he made good in the big city would make a book. And how he wishes he had written it! "You'll make it!" Justice had said. He did indeed. He gives God the credit.

For 45 years he worked in Chicago, spending part time there and part time in Mississippi. For two companies, W. M. Welsh and B. C. Kassell, he designed diplomas and certificates. With his calligraphy he could make three or four thousand dollars in a few months, he said, and during the 1930s Panic, that was a lot. "I would come back here and lend money to people in need. Many could

not repay me, but I was glad I could help."

The first president he ever voted for was Woodrow Wilson. Another one — William Howard Taft — he remembers well. He and many others walked a long way and waited a long time for Taft's train to come through Hattiesburg, thinking they'd hear a speech. Says Prescott, "Well, he stepped out on the train's rear platform and said, 'I am your president and you can't help it!' And then he went back inside the train. That's all he said! I'll never forget it!"

Once Prescott had typhoid fever. One night his mother asked him to go to church with her. He refused. Next morning he woke up with typhoid fever, stayed in bed three months, and nearly died. "I'll never say again I don't have time to go to church. The Lord whipped me then."

The best advice he ever got, he said, came from his mother ("she was a Christian if there ever was one — and my daddy was, too). She said 'Put your faith in the Lord and he will guide you.' My mama was right. I always prayed for the Lord to help me and he would, when I needed him."

Prescott always liked to hunt, especially turkeys. When he was 14, he would sit in the blind and pray he'd get to shoot a turkey. If he didn't get one he'd ask his mother why God had not answered his prayer. She told him, "If the Lord wanted you to shoot a turkey, he would have sent you one."

Some years later, though, he recalls, he would pray the same prayer, and go straight to a turkey "just like a string was pulling" him!

Through his 100 years of living, he has depended on God for guidance. "You can't put anything together without the Lord. If you get off the track, he's going to bring you back! Some way or other he's going to send a message to get you back."

Often people call and ask him to pray for them.

He says, "I tell people on the phone, 'Pray for what you want. You can do anything. Just reach back there and say, 'Lord, I want your help.' If you put your trust in the Lord, you can do anything. — anything.'"



Nelson Prescott, left, and his pastor, James L. Yates, give each other an affectionate hug.

200 most-sung hymns will be recommended

By Charles Willis

NASHVILLE (BP) — The 200 hymns most frequently sung in Southern Baptist churches will be recommended for inclusion in the new Baptist hymnal to be published in 1991.

The first meeting of the hymnal's hymns recommendation subcommittee in early May began with a study of responses to a random-sample survey in which music Southern Baptist directors ranked hymns from the "Baptist Hymnal," 1975 edition, by frequency of use in their churches.

Music directors from a scientifically valid sampling of 348 Southern Baptist churches responded to the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's research services department, representing congregations ranging in size from fewer than 99 members to more than 2,000 members. Fifty-four percent of the respondents represented churches of fewer than 300 members.

Subcommittee members reviewed the top 200 hymns from "Amazing Grace" No. 1 in frequency of use through "The Star-Spangled Banner," No. 200. They voted hymn-by-hymn to recommend them for inclusion in the new hymnal.

The nine most frequently sung hymns after "Amazing Grace" are "To God Be the Glory," "Victory in Jesus,"

"Just As I Am," "Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine," "Standing on the Promises," "Living for Jesus," "There Is Power in the Blood," "At the Cross" and "At Calvary."

In contrast, some of the least-sung hymns of the 512 in the current hymn book, according to the survey, are "Fill Thou My Life, O Lord My God," "So Let Our Lips and Lives Express," "Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs," "We Bless the Name of Christ, the Lord" and "Day of Judgment! Day of Wonders!"

Larry Black, minister of music at First Church, Jackson, Miss., said there "was a period when the choir became the focal point" but that "Baptists are returning to an emphasis on the congregation. I see that being reflected in the decisions here. I think that's exciting."

Subcommittee members also reviewed hymns from the "Baptist Hymnal," 1956 edition, that were not included in the 1975 edition, recommending that more than two dozen of those be considered for inclusion. Among them are "Give of Your Best to the Master," "Now the Day Is Over" and "When I Can Read My Title Clear."

Charles Willis writes for the Sunday School Board.

Mississippi Baptist activities

- June 21 The Minister's Work as a Counselor; Baptist Building; 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (CAPM)
- June 24-25 GA Grandmother/Granddaughter Overnight; Camp Garaywa; 3 p.m., 24th-12:30 p.m., 25th (WMU)

Devotional

"Remember thy creator . . ."

By Terry L. Ledbetter

Ecclesiastes 12:1-4

Everyday is a new and wonderful day in the Lord for the Christian man, woman, boy or girl. Rooted in the scriptures are found the ever so timely commands and principles God gave concerning a changed life in Christ. So often people ask, "How can I hear what God is saying and do what he is instructing? How can my life make a difference for Christ?" I would offer two suggestions that God's Word shares concerning this dilemma.

I. Every Christian needs to be sensitive to the way of God. He says "Remember thy Creator." In what ways do we need to be sensitive? We need to be sensitive first to the convicting power of the Holy Spirit (Psalms 38:4). Second, we need to be sensitive to the correcting power of God to change us (Hebrews 12:1). "Lay aside the sin which doth so easily beset us." Third, we need to be sensitive in the commitment of our lives to God for him to control. Hear what he has to say, but also follow what he says to do.

II. Every Christian needs to be surrendered to the will of God. Life is short lived on this earth, so in order for us to have a complete life in Christ, God's will must take priority in our lives. The writer of this passage said, "Remember thy creator in the days of thy youth . . ." Now is the time to be sincere and strong in the Lord. We need to make our lives count for God and we need to cross the finish line, but we must realize the time is now.

I was five years old when my parents were preparing me for kindergarten. It seems like only yesterday when they bought me one of those extra fat pencils. The teacher had said we could not use the eraser, so I took it upon myself against the will and way of my parents, to take the saw and cut it off. Not only did I quickly realize I had ruined the pencil, but in a very definite way I saw that I had violated the desire of my parents.

Often in the Christian race we sidetrack and get off course. As the writer of Ecclesiastes says, we need that constant awareness within us that God has a very unique plan for our lives. As we allow him to change our lives according to his will, we need those constant reminders to follow him closely all the days of our lives.

Terry L. Ledbetter is pastor, Pine Grove, Dumas.

Just for the Record



Stonewall Church, Clarke County, recently held its Acteens Coronation. The theme, "Celebrate," was in keeping with WMU's 100 years and Albert McMullen, pastor, 30 years in the ministry.

Pictured, from left, front row, are Ashley Davis, Queen Regent, Linda Mason, Queen, Wendi Rigdon, violinist; back row, Tammy Rigdon, Queen Regent in Service, Wendy Davis, Queen to be, Amy King, Queen Regent in Service, Penny Scott, Queen Regent, Robin Morland, leader, Dana Carpenter, Queen, and Nina Rigdon, leader. Not pictured, Wanda Pugh, leader, and daughter, Melissa, Queen with Scepter, Wendy Garrett, and Sharon Hiatt, Queens with Scepter.

Others on program were Betty Dew, Pam Giles, and Martha Wofford, clown ministry from Rolling Creek Church.



Holly Bluff Church, Yazoo County, celebrated 100 years of WMU work with an old fashioned day. The noon meal was from recipes from grandmother's cookbooks.

Pictured are, left to right, bottom row, Mrs. Roy Maine; second row, Roy Maine, pastor, Vivian Langley, Ruth Summerall, Mary Dorris, WMU director, Liz Langley, Ozzie Coghlan, Brent Langley, and Fairris Hatchett, centennial chairman.



Sebastopol Church, Sebastopol held a note burning service on its new educational building. This was a part of the Homecoming Day activities on May 22.

Pictured, left to right, are Kermit Shepard, Pettie Leach, Sonny Easom, Carole Leach, Elaine Sistrunk, and John E. Sharp, pastor.



Members of Calvary, Waynesboro participated in WMU Centennial Celebration and Old Fashioned Day, recognizing WMU leaders and directors during Calvary's 40 years of existence. Following the service "dinner on the ground" was held in the new Family Life Center. In photo at left are former WMU directors — Mrs. Mary Wood, Mrs. Earle Trigg, Mrs. Ivan

Eubanks, current director, and Mrs. Ada Rigney. Seated is Dotie Parker, WMU secretary, recognized for over 40 years service in WMU. Others participating in WMU Centennial and Old Fashioned day, photo at right, are Mrs. Lucy Kelly, Doug Broome, pastor, Drusilla Smith, Inez Tims, Nonie Odom, Izetta Snow, and Helen Cochran.

Corinth Church, Heidelberg, will have Vacation Bible School, June 20-24, from 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Adult classes will be at 7 p.m. The church bus will run each morning. Registration rally will be held Sat., June 18, at 2:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall, refreshments will be served. Johnny H. Breazeale is pastor.

Pelahatchie Church, Pelahatchie, observed the centennial of Woman's Missionary Union. At the morning service the sanctuary choir sang the WMU Centennial Hymn, "God, Our Author and Creator," and the youth presented flags of 32 nations where Southern Baptist missionaries serve. Centennial emphasis was given by Barry Corbett, pastor; and by Mrs. Inez Watts Summer, centennial chairman. Tina Ryals and Tammy Joiner explained the symbolism of the Centennial Logo, "A Century to Celebrate, A Future to Fulfill." At the evening service the youth choir provided special music including a "Missions Medley" and "Keep in Touch." Centennial emphasis was by Mrs. Neva Jean Davis, WMU director, and by members of GAs and Acteens.



Moselle Memorial Church, Moselle, held a dedication service on May 22, for the new church sign. The sign was erected by the James family in memory of Mike James who died on Dec. 23, 1987. He was the son of Philip and Josephine James and the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. P. E. James Sr.

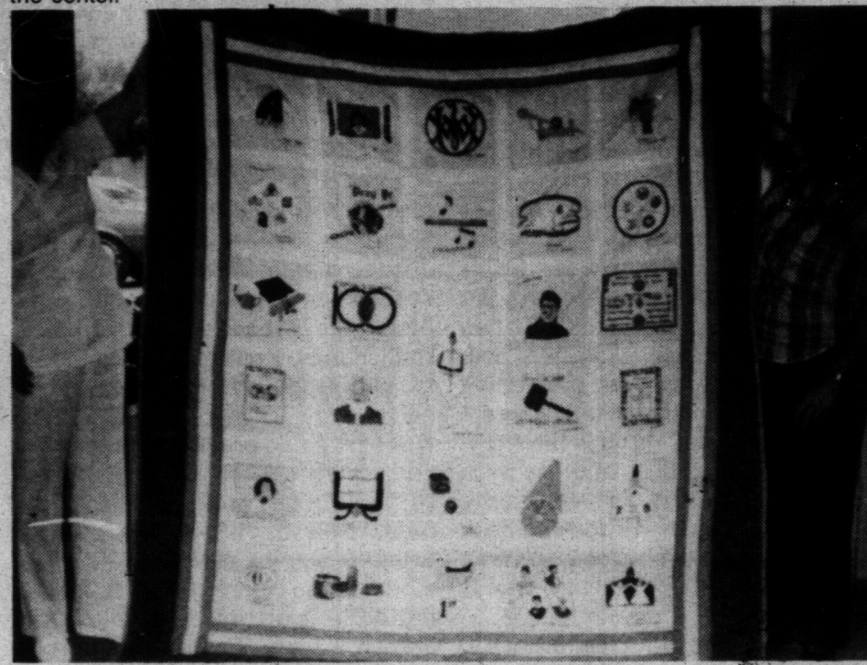
Recently **West End Church, West Point,** received a check for \$2,500 from the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. This money will be applied to the rebuilding of the church plant which burned in November of last year. The church is presently meeting at a local discount store that has been vacated. West End Church contributes 3 percent to associational missions and 12 percent to the Cooperative Program.

On June 28 at 8 p.m., the **Daybreak Choir and Orchestra (Senior High)** of First Church, Gainesville, Ga., will present a concert of sacred music in Provine Chapel on the Mississippi College campus. Mississippian Jimmy Cutrell directs the group.



Covington and Jeff Davis WMUs celebrated the WMU centennial on May 15 at the associational center at Lone Star. Over 350 took part. At the reception after the program, three birthday cakes were presented made by, left to right, Mattie Lou Rogers, Gertrude Smith, and Inez McIntosh. From Jeff Davis, Lorena Langston was oldest member present and Lucille Michael with longest WMU service (65 years). From Covington Delia Flynt was oldest present and Lucy Trigg was longest membership (69 years).

Roanoke Keys was WMU centennial chairman for Covington Association; Hallie McNease was centennial chairman for Jeff Davis County. The quilt shown above was dedicated on May 15 at the special celebration; it will remain in a cedar cabinet at the center.



The women of **Oak Grove Church, Jeff Davis Association,** made a WMU centennial quilt in honor of Mrs. Lucille Mikell, Baptist Women president for 30 years. The quilt will be placed in the fellowship hall at Oak Grove Church.

Pictured are Mrs. Norman Crochet, pastor's wife and centennial chairman, right, and Mrs. Bal Mobley, left.

CHAIRMAN, DIVISION OF EDUCATION Wayland Baptist University

THE POSITION: Person needed to direct a growing division with three primary emphases: (1) undergraduate certification program including various secondary teaching fields, (2) growing elementary program with several areas of specialization, and (3) standard certification plan. Division also has active M.Ed. program, and some graduate teaching is required. Twelve-month position.

REQUIREMENTS: Earned doctorate required, and person must also either hold Texas certification or be certifiable under state guidelines. Expertise in social and psychological foundations of education, curriculum and instruction, or mathematics and science education also desirable. The successful candidate will also be sympathetic to the ideals and mission of a Southern Baptist university.

THE INSTITUTION: Wayland Baptist University is a multi-purpose institution offering degrees on the associate, baccalaureate and master's levels. The main campus is in Plainview, Texas, a city of approximately 25,000 people located between Lubbock and Amarillo. The university also operates several off-campus centers, and total enrollment is approximately 2,000.

SALARY: Commensurate with education, experience and potential; competitive with similar positions nationwide. A very attractive benefit package is also included.

CLOSING DATE: July 15, or until a suitable applicant can be found.

TO APPLY: Send letter of application, vita, transcripts and list of four professional references to:

Dr. Estelle Owens, Education Search Committee Chairman
Wayland Baptist University
1900 W. 7th, Plainview, TX 79072

Names in the news

Kathrine Beaty of Jackson, has been named the first woman to chair the board of trustees of Blue Mountain College. She is also the first Blue Mountain College graduate to serve in this capacity. Miss Beaty works for MP&L in Jackson where she was the first woman to serve as supervisor of customer accounting and the first and only woman to serve as auditor of local MP&L offices. She was Blue Mountain College Alumna of the Year for 1984.

Leroy Yarbrough, professor of music at New Orleans Seminary, has been named as music director of the Baptist World Alliance Congress in Seoul, Korea, in August, 1990. He was director of music for the Baptist World Youth Conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1984 and is the North American music coordinator for the Baptist World Youth Conference in Glasgow, Scotland, scheduled for July, 1988. He currently serves as interim minister of music at First Church, McComb.

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — Gerald L. Stevens of Decatur, Ala., has been elected assistant professor of New Testament and Greek at New Orleans Seminary.

Stevens has been campus minister for the University of Alabama Medical School in Birmingham for seven years. He is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi and New Orleans Seminary.

Mrs. Mary McCurdy was honored Sunday, May 29, for her years of service to Pope Church, Pope. A "Mary McCurdy Concert," was presented by the senior citizens choir from First Church, Florence, and directed by Steve Warren.

John Reed, native of Atlanta, graduate of Mississippi College, earned the master of education at MSU, and master of religious education at SWBTS. Former campaign director of the Mississippi Mission, he is now president of Mississippi Foundation of Independent Colleges, Inc., which raises funds for the three Mississippi Baptist colleges and Millsaps and Belhaven. Married to the former Donna Dievert of Hazlehurst, he and his wife have three children.

Robert S. Denny Jr. died May 29 of complications following a transplant procedure initiated to halt progression of a rare lung disease. Denny, 46, was a resident of Port Charlotte, Florida. Denny's father, Robert S. Denny Sr., was General Secretary of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) 1969-80 and BWA associate secretary of youth 1956-69. The younger Denny took medical retirement in 1982 from a telephone company in Virginia, where he was a repair supervisor. Survivors are his wife, Sue, and their four children. He suffered from Alpha 1 Antitrypsin, which in recent months had become life-threatening to the extent that medical experts urgently advised the lung transplant. Death was from complications arising during the long and, in Denny's case, experimental procedure begun at University Hospital, Jackson, Miss. on May 19 and subsequently requiring an additional lung and heart transplant.

MEMPHIS — Charles D. Phillips Sr., former president of the American Protestant Health Association, has assumed the duties of director of the Department of Religion at Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis.

Phillips filled the position vacated by Charles McKnight when he became senior chaplain at Baptist Memorial.

An ordained Southern Baptist pastor, Phillips has a bachelor of arts degree from Mississippi College, master of divinity and master of arts degrees from Southern Seminary and a doctorate in education from New Orleans Seminary.

Before joining the College of Chaplains of APHA 21 years ago, Phillips served as pastor of Baptist churches in Houston and Wesson.

Baptist Memorial is owned by Southern Baptists in Arkansas, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

LUTHERVILLE, Md. (BP) — Pam Parry of Kansas City, Mo., has been named associate editor of the Baptist True Union, newsjournal for the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware.

Parry is a recent graduate of Midwestern Seminary in Kansas City. She worked previously as a news writer at Word and Way, Missouri Baptists' state newspaper, and in Midwestern Seminary's public relations office.

Charis Quinnelly, a graduate of Papillion-LaVista High School, Omaha, Neb., has accepted the Society of Distinguished American High School Students Scholarship offered by Mississippi College. Miss Quinnelly was a concert and swing choir member, all-state chorus, member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and active member of the Harrison Street Baptist Church youth group.

Charis is the daughter of Patsy Quinnelly and J. Doss Quinnelly. Her grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Murray Y. Dillard of Cumberland Route, Mathiston, Miss.

Several Mississippians were on program recently in student-led chapel services at New Orleans Seminary. Charles Fowler of Corinth sang. Angela Traylor Mann of Monroe, La. (married to Kenny Mann from Jackson) sang. H. Leon Schilling of New Orleans, graduate of William Carey, sang. Chuck Pitman Jr. of Jackson sang. John H. Crump of Starkville spoke. Kenny Mann of Jackson performed on the piano. Frank Gunn Jr. of Biloxi spoke. All of these were seniors at the seminary.

Homecomings

Shubuta (Clarke): June 26; W. Harold Anderson, 11 a.m., message; lunch following in U. C. Wells Annex; Ferrell Morris, pastor.

Christian psychologist board certified

Billy R. Fox, Clinton/Jackson psychologist, was recently board certified as a Christian psychologist by the American Board of Christian Psychology (ABCP). ABCP is the first national board certifying body combining psychological and theological concepts/principles.

Fox is the founder and executive/clinical director of the Growth Center located at 5135 Galaxie Drive in Jackson, Miss. He, his wife, and two children are active members of Morrison Heights Church, Clinton.

Key leader seminar planned for July 26

Pastoral leadership in the single-staff church is the title of a key leader seminar to take place July 26 at the Baptist Building in Jackson.

The seminar will feature D. G. McCoury, pastoral ministries consultant in the Church Administration Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Purpose of the seminar will be to deal with the special needs of a church which has only one staff member.

A \$10 fee will cover cost of the materials and one meal. The program is from 9:15 in the morning to 3:30 that afternoon.

The program will consider leadership styles, types of skills necessary in a single staffer, and biblical mandates concerning church, polity, missions, and functions.

To register, write: Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205, including a check for \$10 payable to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (prior to July 19).

Revival dates

East Morton, Morton: June 26-July 1; Cliff Estes, Shreveport, La., guest evangelist; services, 11 a.m. Sunday, 7 p.m. each night; Frank Stittle of Canton, music.

Sand Hill (Neshoba): June 19-24; 7 p.m.; Bob O'Neil, guest speaker; Joe Scire, music; Johnnie Ruth Ingram, pianist; Don Ray, pastor.

Spring Hill, Oakland: June 26-July 1; Sunday, homecoming, Sunday School, 10 a.m., recognition of guests, 10:45, followed by worship services conducted by Guy Reedy, First, Water Valley; Curtis Berry, minister of music, Water Valley, music; dinner will follow at nearby community house; revival, Sunday, 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Grover (Bill) Cox, pastor.

Good Hope (Leake): June 26-July 1; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; David Satterwhite, director of missions (Leake Co.), evangelist; Mark Gunn, music; Mrs. Brenda Chennault, pianist; Odell Tebo, pastor.

Thursday, June 16, 1988

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 9

Staff changes

John Lemonis has recently accepted the call of minister of music and youth of Macedonia Church, Brookhaven. Lemonis is a native of Greenville. He is married to the former Janet McEwen of Jayess. Robert Perry is pastor.

Darla Jo Barron has resigned as activities director at Agricola Church to become a staffer at Glorieta Conference Center, Glorieta, N.M.

Thomas Broadhead recently joined the staff of Poplar Springs Drive Church, Meridian, as minister of education.

Broadhead is a graduate of Southeast Lauderdale High School and Mississippi College. He received the master of religious education degree from New Orleans Seminary.

He goes to Meridian from Morgan-town Church of Natchez.

He and his wife, Linda, have two children.

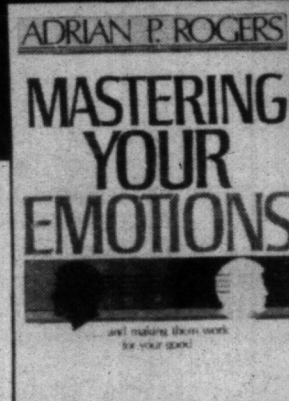
Bryan Parker has recently accepted the position of minister of music and youth at Bassfield Church, Bassfield, effective May 22. He is a church music major at Jones Junior College, and this is his first staff position. He is the son of Bernie Parker, minister of music at First Church in Columbia.

Gary White has been called as pastor of Sand Hill Church, Greene Association. He will be ordained on June 5 at 2:30 p.m. He and his wife, Heidi, live in New Orleans, where he attends New Orleans Seminary.

West End Church, West Point, has recently called Terry Partin as pastor. He is a graduate of Blue Mountain College and is attending the Jackson center of New Orleans Seminary.

Barton Church, George Association, has called Brian Pannell as music director. He has a wife, Teresa, and baby daughter, Ashlee. He plans to attend Mobile College and live at Barton.

Adrian and Joyce Rogers's insightful words offer encouragement and challenge for daily living.



MASTERING YOUR EMOTIONS—Using case studies from the Bible and sound principles of psychology, Adrian Rogers shows how you can master your emotions. With unusual insight, he discusses insecurity, depression, guilt, bitterness, and other predominant emotions. If you struggle with your emotions, here is help in turning your negative feelings into positive behavior. \$9.95



THE SECRET OF A WOMAN'S INFLUENCE—A sequel to *The Wise Woman*, this book offers help in discovering the significance of woman's role under God's authority in all areas of life. It looks at woman's influence, spheres of influence, women in ministry, and women's role today. Elisabeth Elliot says, "Joyce Rogers's voice needs to be heard, articulating ancient principles given for the true liberation of both men and women." \$9.95

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Parables of the kingdom, drawn from everyday life

By Gayle Alexander
Matthew 13:1-52

Matthew 13 is a series of parables on the kingdom. Parables of stories drawn from everyday life to illustrate spiritual truths which are intended to be understood.



Alexander Gospel.

In the parable of the sower (1-9), the seeds were first sown and later plowed in. This would explain why some seed fell on various kinds of soil. Jesus interpreted the seed as the Word of God. The sower is Christ or those who preach the Gospel.

The hard packed soil that allows the birds to eat the seed are the wayside hearers who are completely unresponsive to Christ. Satan removes all spiritual impressions from their lives. Seed on the rocky soil germinates, but for lack of depth the roots cannot sustain life. This is the shallow, emotional hearer whose initial enthusiasms is completely withered by the demands of Christian faith. The seeds sprouting among the thorns, and thus choked out, depict the preoccupied hearer whose heart is already

BIBLE BOOK

full of the cares of this world. The only hearers approved are those of the good soil. Fruit is a test of life. Each person will be judged by his response to Christ.

The mysteries of the kingdom identify the content of the parables as something previously hidden but now is revealed. By the use of parables Jesus purposed to either illuminate or reveal blindness (13-17). God imparts the higher gift of revelation to believers because they are open and responsive to him.

To follow light given is to receive more light. But, "to them it is not given" identifies determined unbelievers who had refused the teachings of Jesus. To refuse light given is to become blind. Those not disposed to believe sink deeper into their own blindness. The parable calls for each one responsible hearing and seeing. God does not close eyes or ears; men close their own.

Tares (darnell) are so similar to the wheat as to be indistinguishable until harvest (24-30). The fruit will reveal the difference between the two. The tares are deliberately sown by an

enemy at night.

The reaper separated the two at harvest. The darnell was gathered for burning before the wheat was harvested. Jesus interpreted the field as the world (34-43).

The springing up of Christ's true followers in the world is counterfeited by the devil whose children often masquerade as believers. The end of the ages when history is completed will see both judgment and salvation brought to a close. The parable probably has the emphasis of cautioning those who wanted God to act immediately in outward and final judgment (political messiah) of the wicked and the reward of the righteous. The church is warned to wait for God's judgment upon evildoers, and his vindication of the righteous.

The parable of the mustard seed and the leaven seemed to be paired to contrast the magnitude of the kingdom with its seeming humble and unpromising beginning (31-33). The Jews expected Messiah to strike down all enemies and enthroned Israel. But Jesus offered them a suffering servant and gave himself to a handful of people to begin forming his kingdom. The smallness of the mustard seed and the plant it produced was proverbial. The

emphasis of the leaven is the way it penetrates and changes the dough. The kingdom does not come with outward show but with power to change from within. Both parables stressed the miraculous power of God's coming kingdom out of humble beginnings but with proverbial results.

The two parables of the hidden treasure and the pearl (44-46) carry the same message of joy occasioned by the in-breaking of the kingdom of God. It seems to this writer that Christ is the purchasing agent in both parables. People are the hidden treasure, and the pearl of great price, which Christ, the merchant man, is willing to purchase even though it cost him everything. Indeed, Jesus did part with everything, including his life, in order to purchase men to belong to him.

The parable of the net (47-52) may be compared with the tares among the wheat. Each parable teaching the judgment is outwardly delayed, but yet certain. This may have evangelistic emphasis of spreading the net over all kinds of fish. One is not to discriminate as to whom the gospel is preached but to appeal to all classes and types of people.

Gayle Alexander is pastor, First, Tupelo.

In love, God confronts and calls people to himself

By Jimmy G. McGee
Exodus 3:1-12

God is very much a part of our world. He knows all about us and he is interested in all that happens. In love, he confronts and calls people to himself.



McGee

God calls everybody to salvation. To those who believe he gives the right to become the children of God (John 1:12). God calls believers to responsible service and endows each with the spiritual gift(s) to fulfill the task. Some are called to vocational Christian ministry. All Christians are called as witnesses to minister in Jesus' name.

Whenever God calls to Christian service, same things are always true. (1) There is a need to be met. (2) The one being called is sensitive to the presence of God. (3) The one being called is aware of and concerned about the need. (4) The one being called is under impression of God's will to say yes. (5) God provides ample resource to enhance one's ability, preparation, and spiritual gifts to fulfill the task.

The call of Moses was significant in the

UNIFORM

redemptive purpose of God and is instructive for us today. Moses remembers the experience for us.

Busy at his everyday task, Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father-in-law. One day he led the flock to the backside of the desert beyond the normal range of Midianite shepherds. He came to Horeb, also called Mt. Sinai, the mountain of God. Here he encountered God in the miracle of a burning bush.

The "Angel of the Lord" appeared in a burning bush. Moses' attention is captured by the bush that burned yet was not consumed. "The Lord saw" him and "God called to him, Moses, Moses." Moses heard the voice and responded, "Here am I."

It has been 40 years, but we may rightly assume that when "he went out to his brethren, and looked on their burdens" (Exodus 2:11) Moses identified with the Hebrew faith in the Living God. He was aware of God's covenant with Abraham concerning future blessing. Here Moses is again sensitive to God's person and presence. He was standing on holy ground. Following God's instruction Moses takes off his

shoes. Holy means belonging to God, dedicated to God's purpose. God identifies himself as the "God of your father . . . of Abraham . . . Isaac . . . Jacob." In submission to and in awe of God's presence, Moses hides his face.

God assures Moses that he has seen the oppression of the Hebrews and heard their cry and has come to deliver them from Egypt and give to them the land of Canaan. Remembering his own aspirations of an earlier time, Moses was delighted at God's Word.

God continued, Come now and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people out! "But Moses" (verse 11) introduces the first of five excuses. The call of God was clear. Typically, God's call challenges us to step out of our comfort zone. Like Moses, too often we don't want to take the risk.

"Who am I?" Nobody is worthy to walk with God, yet God continually calls redeemed people who are willing to be used in the great work of His kingdom. What Moses thought reasons, God called excuses. And God countered every excuse. When a Christian knows it is God who is calling, excuses are inexcusable. To Moses God said "I will certainly be with you." Those, and only those, who accept God's commission of Matthew 28:18-20 have the promise "and lo

I am with you always."

Moses hesitates, "I really don't know who you are, what is your name?" God satisfies the second excuse with an important self-disclosure "I AM THAT I AM." This is my name forever.

"Suppose they won't believe me. Forty years earlier they rejected my effort." God gave Moses two miracles to use as signs to convince them.

"I am slow of speech and slow of tongue." God countered his fourth excuse reminding Moses that he made his mouth and he would teach him what to say.

Moses holds out again, "Please send somebody else." God was angry at his reluctance and gave him Aaron his brother for a spokesman.

Is God calling you? Are you aware of any need to be met in your church and community? Do you have a genuine concern that the need be fulfilled? Will you pray for God to provide the ministering person? Do you believe God can supply the resource if you are willing to commit yourself?

Every Christian is called of God to witness in faithfulness and to minister in love.

Jimmy McGee is pastor, First, Grenada.

Seeking harmony in diversity: a necessity for us all

By M. Dean Register

Whenever two or three are gathered in Christ's name differences occur. The differences can be healthy when Christians demonstrate a maturity that behaves with love and understanding, but the differences can be disastrous when believers selfishly champion their own rights and agendas.



Register

Dwight L. Moody and Henry Drummond lived as brothers in Christ although they were dissimilar in many ways. Moody never finished high school, but Drummond was a university scholar. Moody was rough and unpolished, but Drummond was refined and cultured. Moody held tenaciously to the biblical account of creation, but Drummond espoused the theory of evolution. Moody preached the gospel with a fervor and power that shook two continents, but Drummond simply whispered the gospel in conversational tone mainly to college students.

Many of Moody's friends urged him to separate from Drummond and prohibit Drum-

LIFE AND WORK

mond from sitting on the platform with him. But Moody refused and stood by Drummond to the end. When Drummond died, Moody burst into tears and uttered a statement that still resounds with affection: "the things which we could not see alike here below we shall fully know in the light of his countenance who brought our lives together and blessed them with a mutual love."

How could two men be so opposite in personality and hold such diverse views yet live in a harmony so sweet that believers today can still point to their legacy? The answer, I believe, is lodged in the principles of Romans 14.

The first principle is that a weak believer should be received as a full participant in the fellowship of Christ and the strong believer should be accepted without condemnation. The terms "weak" and "strong" (Rom. 14:1-3) have specific application to the context of the church at Rome.

The "weak" were those Christians who were overscrupulous in their faith and were still bound by a ceremonial and dietary legalism.

The "strong" were those Christians who exercised a mature faith and felt no compunction regarding what they ate or drank. Paul considered himself among the strong because he did not practice the rites of Judaism nor did he observe the rituals of legalism.

Nevertheless, Paul explains that the strong believers must never look down their noses at the weak and the weak should never pronounce judgment on the strong. The principle of acceptance is what Paul advocates. Sadly, throughout our churches and our beloved convention we have exercised too much ignorance and too little understanding.

The second principle is that believers should work toward harmonious relationships (Rom. 14:19). Paul says we should seek to live at peace and to engage in activities that lead to edification. When our attitudes and actions create evil and chaos in the fellowship then we are wrong. Does this principle of peace mean that we cannot hold differing convictions? Not at all. It simply means that our convictions must always be subjected to the Lordship of Christ under whose authority there are no rivals and certainly no sides.

The third principle is that believers should

model the example of Jesus (Rom. 15:1-3). Just as Jesus endured the immaturity of his disciples and he willfully took the reproach of others upon himself so each of us needs to "bear the infirmities" of one another. The word "bear" means to carry or tolerate and implies a concerted effort or sacrifice. It is certainly a lot easier to please ourselves and harangue a brother or sister for a difference of perspective, but if we follow Jesus we must work toward the growth of the person.

The fourth principle is that believers should link hands and hearts to the glory of God (Rom. 15:6-7). Our witness to a lost world is discredited by bickering, fighting and labeling. When the unsaved hear about church splits, religious politics, and power plays they cannot "see" the difference between Christians and non-Christians.

Jesus prayed for "oneness" among his followers — a oneness of purpose in the midst of diversity. Paul likewise prayed that believers would receive one another and accept one another just as Christ did to the glory of God. Together, hand in hand, heart to heart, we can let the world know the good news of the gospel.

Dean Register is pastor, First, Gulfport.

THE VILLAGE VIEW



The Baptist Children's Village

Paul N. Nunnery, Executive Director

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Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

April 13, 1988 -
May 10, 1988

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Roberta & Monroe
Barrentine
Mr. & Mrs. James H.
Hargrove
Mr. & Mrs. Paul J. Jaggars
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Tonya & Brent Bourland
Bob Bailey
Becky & Ward Williams
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Annie Barkley
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FBC, Charleston
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Mr. Guy Barr
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Mr. & Mrs. Ellis Koury
Mrs. Ulma Barr
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Billy Bateman
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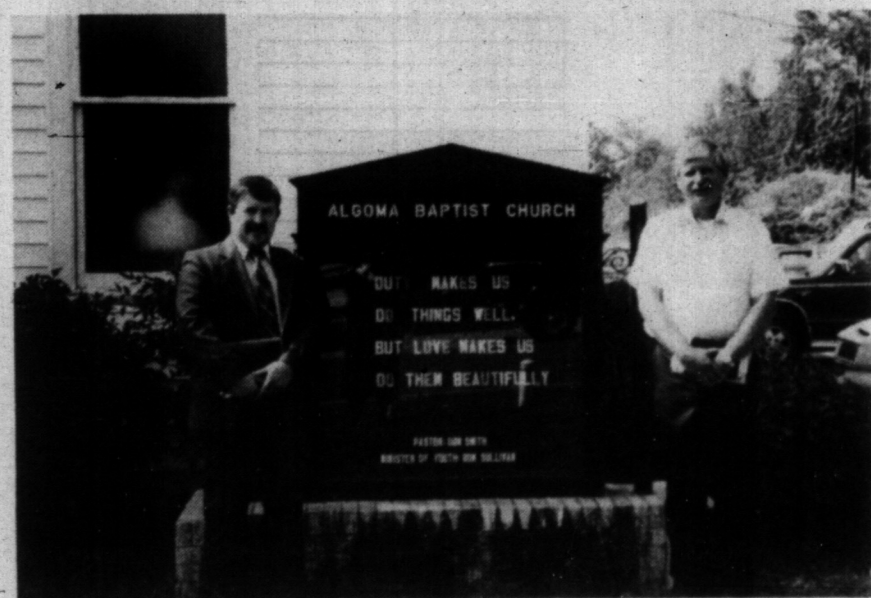
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(To be continued)

VICTORY ON MOTHER'S DAY



Pastor Don Smith (left) and Sunday School Director Jimmy Higgins (right) led the Algoma Baptist Church, Algoma, Mississippi, to agree to take a love offering for The Baptist Children's Village on MOTHER'S DAY. The congregation voted to double whatever was given through the Sunday School. The aggregate was \$2,335.00. For the 1988 calendar year they have given \$2,635.00 for child care ministries. To God be the glory!

The Algoma Baptist Church ordained Director of Public Relations, The Baptist Children's Village, Kermit D. McGregor to the Gospel Ministry in October, 1955.

Baptist Record



Mary Dunwoody of Olivet Church, Gulfport, was the leader in an arts and crafts seminar that involved reverse glass painting.

ing. She was assisted by Denise Faucett of the same church.

"The Palm Tree Christian": theme for senior adults

Gordon Sansing, pastor of First Church, Vicksburg; Tommy Jarrett, pastor of First Church, Macon; and Penrose St. Amant, Bay St. Louis resident who is distinguished professor of church history at Southern Seminary, were worship leaders during three senior adult conferences this year at Gulfshore.

Music directors were Don McGregor, editor of the *Baptist Record*; Paul Padgett, minister of music at First Church, Magee; and Farley Ernest, minister of music at First Church, Brandon.

Art Nelson, retired business manager for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, was the organist for all three conferences. The pianists were Irene Martin, *Baptist Record* staff member; Thelma Winborne, First Church, Magee; and Dot Harrison, First Church, Brandon.

J. Clark Hensley, family ministry consultant for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, was the director for all three conferences. The associate directors were Cortez Hutchinson, First Church, Yazoo City, for the first one; and W. Levon Moore, retired director of missions for Attala Association, for the other two.

The first conference was five days. The other two were three days each.

Ethel McKeithen, retired consultant for the Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union, was fellowship leader for all conferences. Glen Pearson, retired physician from Hattiesburg, also was on all three programs.

Other conference leaders were DeWayne Beaty, First Church, Longview; Aubrey Boone, executive secretary for the Mississippi Baptist

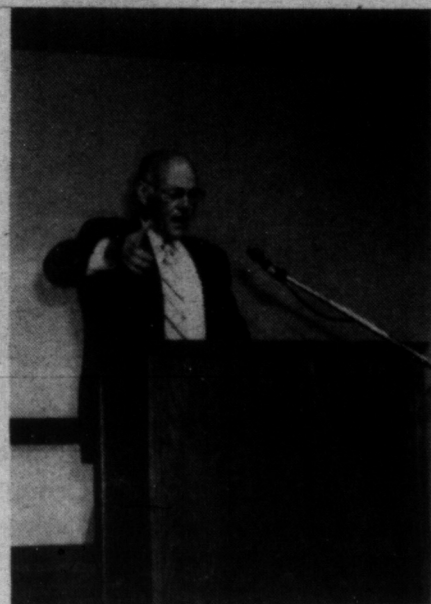
Foundation; Charles Stubblefield, director of missions for Tishomingo Association; Margaret Hensley, family ministry consultant from Jackson; Barry Worrell, minister of education at Emmanuel Church, Grenada; Danny Rutland, Jackson, regional development director for Golden Gate Seminary; Robert Williams, pastor of Cambridge Church, Gautier; Mary Lou Williams, McKinney, Texas, representing the Sunday School Board; and Billy Johnson, pastor of Dixie Church, Hattiesburg.

Pat Gullledge, farmer from Grenada, spoke on the last night of the first conference. He left a religious education ministry to manage his

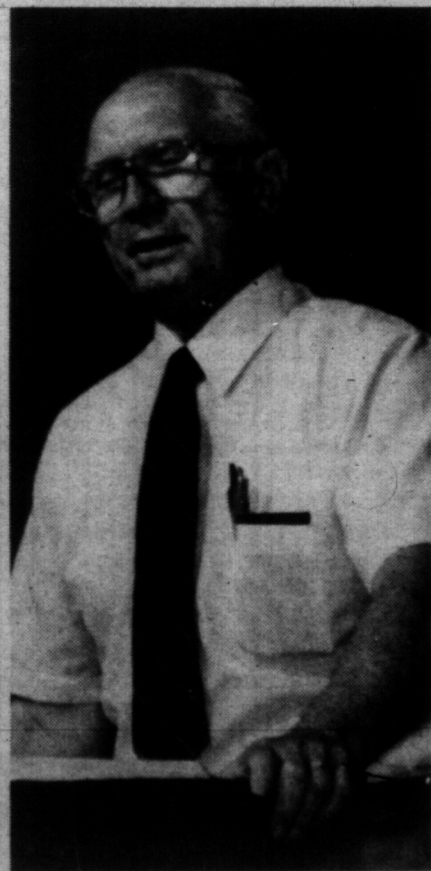
family's farm. Gullledge has written a book on ministering to senior adults.

The theme for all three conferences was "The Palm Tree Christian."

Total attendance for all three weeks was 633.



Don McGregor, editor of the *Baptist Record*, was music director for the first Senior Adult Conference this year at Gulfshore.



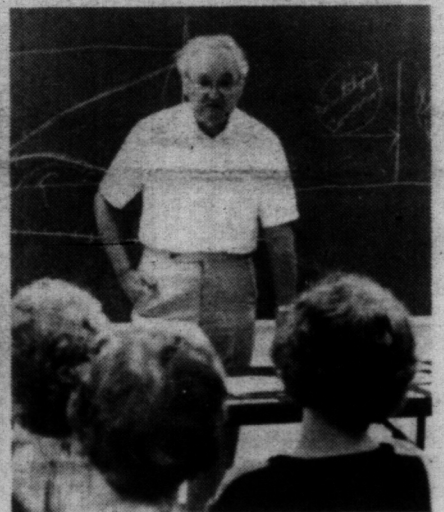
Pat Gullledge of Grenada, a farmer, spoke at the closing session of the First Senior Adult Conference at Gulfshore. Gullledge began his career as an education director in churches, but left that work to manage his family's farm. He has written a book on working with senior adults.



Gordon Sansing, left, pastor of First Church, Vicksburg, was the Bible teacher during the first Senior Adult Conference this year at Gulfshore. The theme was "The Palm Tree Christian." In the photo above, Sansing, left, shows Art Nelson one of a series of drawings made to illustrate the theme. Nelson was the organist for all of the conferences. The artist who provided the drawings was Udelle Jones a layman in Sansing's church.



Art Nelson, retired from the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board as business manager, was the organist for the three Senior Adult Conferences at Gulfshore. The pianist for the first conference was Irene Martin of Harpersville, *Baptist Record* employee.



Arts and crafts were popular seminar subjects during the senior adult conferences at Gulfshore. Glen Pearson, Hattiesburg physician, was the leader of one of the seminars.

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June 16, 1988

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